

Q: What do Better Buildings Residential Network members need to report?

A: Better Buildings Residential Network members should simply share their number of upgrades and benefits associated with those upgrades.

Q: How do members benefit by reporting?

A: Sharing the number of member upgrades is a powerful statement about the impact of the residential energy efficiency market, and sharing the benefits of upgrades will allow members to learn from each other's best practices, and avoid reinventing the wheel.

Q: How do members report?

A: Members use the Residential Network's Reporting and Benefits Template, or provide the information in another format, such as via email, document, spreadsheet, graphic, or chart. Reporting and benefits should be sent to bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov.

Q: What does "benefits from upgrades" mean?

A: Members have flexibility, but should be substantive and clear. For example, the benefits from upgrades can include energy saved, money saved by consumers, economic impacts, jobs created or workers trained or certified, environmental benefits (e.g. greenhouse gas or water savings), or health benefits. Benefits can also be in the form of testimonials, such as a contractor describing how the market has shifted based on the number of upgrades, or a mother describing how an upgrade made her children more comfortable at home or cut down on their sick days from school.

Benefits examples from 2014 reporting:

- 17,822 MMBtu saved; 1,894,976 kWh saved – Center for Energy and Environment
- \$31,282 saved on energy bills; 107,257 kWh saved annually; 17,934 therms saved annually – Clean Energy Durham

Q: How will information shared by Residential Network members be used?

A: Members can get recognition in materials such as the *State of the Better Buildings Residential Network* report; lessons learned fact sheets; the [Better Buildings Network View](#) e-newsletter; the Residential Network group on Home Energy Pros; the [Residential Network website](#); and other U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) materials, communications, and social media outlets.

Q: Why do Residential Network members need to report?

A: Members are asked to make only one commitment to receive multiple valuable resources accessible to all member organization staff to strengthen their work when joining the Residential Network: To provide their number of upgrades and benefits from those upgrades one time per year.

Q: Does my organization need to report its annual upgrades and benefits to DOE?

A: Yes, **unless** you are a Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® Sponsor, Georgetown University Energy Prize participant, a Home Energy Affordability Loan partner, or joined the Residential Network after April 30, 2015.

Q: My organization is a membership organization, and our members complete upgrades, but my organization does not. Do I need to submit upgrades and benefits?

A: The idea behind reporting is to establish the impact of the residential energy efficiency market, and members are asked to report upgrades in their sphere of influence. Membership organizations are asked to report the annual upgrades and benefits from your members.

Q: Our organization is an energy education provider and does not directly upgrade properties. Should we report our educational work on the template?

A: All members are asked to share their impact on the residential energy efficiency market in their sphere of influence, even if they do not directly undertake upgrades, so yes, list metrics related to your educational work on the template.

Q: My organization has not yet accounted for all upgrades completed or associated benefits through September 30, 2014. What do we do?

A: Simply list the number of upgrades that have been accounted for by your organization from October 1, 2013, through September 30, 2014.

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- Q:** This year's reporting timeframe is different than last year's. Will my 2015 report be affected if my organization also reported in 2014?
- A:** This year's reporting will be based on upgrades that occurred during fiscal year (FY) 2014 (October 1, 2013 – September 30, 2014). The first year of Residential Network reporting took a calendar year approach (January 1 – December 31, 2013). We recognize this change means there will be an overlap of one quarter (i.e., October, November, and December 2013) of information for those who reported in 2014. Please pardon this one-time overlap while we transition to FY data collection.
- Q:** What impact will my reporting have?
- A:** Communicating the positive impact of residential energy efficiency is essential at the local, state, and national levels to engender support, funding, and valuation in the market. Your reporting aggregated in the totality of member accomplishments enables this, as well as members to share best practices and learn from one another to increase the number of homes that are energy efficient.

For more information contact us at bbresidentialnetwork@ee.doe.gov.